seemed to hym to haue altered their kindly course.

Lording) Spoken after the maner of Paddocks and Frogges sitting which is indeed Lordly, not remouing nor looking once a side, vnlesse they be sturred.

Then as) The second part. That is his manhoode.

Cotes) sheepecotes. for such be the exercises of shepheards.

Sale) or Salovv a kind of vvoodde like VVyllovv, fit to vvreath and bynde in leapes to catch fish vvithall.

Phæbe fayles) The Eclipse of the Moone, vvhich is alwayes in Cauda or Capite Draconis, signes in heauen.

Venus) s. Venus starre othervvise called Hesperus and Vesper and Lucifer, both because he seemeth to be one of the brightest starres, and also first ryseth and setteth last. All vvhich still in starres being conuenient for shepheardes to knovve as Theocritus and the rest vse.

Raging seaes) The cause of the swelling and ebbing of the sea commeth of the course of the Moone, sometime encreasing, sometime wayning and decreasing.

Sooth of byrdes) A kind of sooth saying vsed in elder tymes, vvhich they gathered by the flying of byrds; First (as is sayd) niuented by the Thuscanes, and frō them deriued to the Romanes, vvho (as is sayd in Liuie) vvere so superstitiously rooted in the same, that they agreed that euery Noble man should put his sonne to the Thuscanes, by them to be brought vp in that knowledge.

Of herbes) That vvonderous thinges be wrought by herbes, asvvell appeareth by the common vvorking of them in our bodies, as also by the vvonderful enchauntments and sorceries that haue bene vvrought by them; insomuch that it is sayde that Circe a famous sorceresse turned mē into sondry kinds of beastes & Monsters, and onely by herbes: as the Poete sayth Dea sæua potentibus herbis &c.

Kidst) kneweſt. Eare) of corne. Scathe) losse hinderaunce.

Euer among) Euer and anone.

This is my) The thyrde parte vvherein is set forth his ripe yeres as an vntimely harueſt, that bringeth little fruite.

The flagraunt flovvres) sundry studies and laudable partes of learning, vvherein how our Poete is seene, be they vvitnesse vvhich are priuie to his study.

So now my yeere) The last part, vvherein is described his age by comparison of vvyntrye stormes.

Carefull cold) for care is sayd to coole the blood. Glee mirth)

Hoary frost) A metaphore of hoary heares scattred lyke to a gray frost.

Breeme) sharpe and bitter.

Adievv delights) is a conclusion of all. vvhere in sixe verses he comprehendeth briefly all that vvas touched in this booke. In the first verse his delights of youth generally. in the second, the loue of Rosalind, in the thyrd, the keeping of sheepe, vvhich is the argument of all Æglogues. In the fourth his complaints. And in the last two his professed frendship and good vvill to his good friend Hobbinoll.

Embleme.

The meaning wherof is that all thinges perish and come to theyr last end, but workes of learned vvits and monuments of Poetry abide for euer. And therefore Horace of his Odes a work though full indede of great wit & learning, yet of no so great weight

vveight and importaunce boldly sayth.

Exegi monimentum ære perennius,
Quod nec imber nec aquilo vorax &

Therefore let not be enuied, that this Poete in h
a Calendar, that shall endure as long as time &c.
race and Ouid in the like.

Grande opus exegi quæ nec Iouis ira
Nec ferum poterit nec edax abolere v

Loe I haue made a Calender for euery
That steele in strength, and time in dura
And if I marked well the starres reuoluti
It shall continewe till the worlds disso
To teach the ruder shepheard how to fee
And from the falsers fraud his folded fl
Goe lyttle Calender, thou hast a free
Goe but a lowly gate emongste the mean
Dare not to match thy pype with Tityru
Nor with the Pilgrim that the Ploug
But followe them farre off, and their hig
The better please, the worse despise. I aſk

Merce non merc